

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:23 p.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Mayes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Kathleen Law, Leland, Byrum, Walker, Nitz, Ball, Sheltroun.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Meekhof.

Representative Kathleen Law made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of September 12, 2007. No objections being offered, the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

Representative Nitz made a motion to excuse absent members. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

The Chair laid HB 5034 and HB 5035 before the Committee.

HB 5034 Sheltroun Agriculture; fertilizer; "agricultural use"; define.

HB 5035 Mayes Agriculture; fertilizer; approval for ordinance regarding use of agricultural fertilizer; require by Michigan commission of agriculture.

Representative Sheltroun spoke to the Committee regarding the contents of HB 5034 and HB 5035. Jim Byrum, representing the Michigan AgriBusiness Association, joined Representative Sheltroun and answered questions for members.

Keith Marios, representing Star of the West Milling, spoke to the Committee in support of HB 5034 and HB 5035. Mr. Marios also explained various aspects of Star of the West Milling operations regarding phosphorus and potassium soil testing, fertilizer applications and yield difference, and the technology of controlled release fertilizer.

Nancy Nyquist, April Hunt and Gina Davis, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), submitted a card indicating support for HB 5034 and HB 5035.

Tom Frazier, representing the Michigan Townships Association, spoke to the Committee in opposition to HB 5034 and HB 5035.

Rebecca Park, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card in support of HB 5034 and HB 5035.

Val Vail-Shirey and Larry Julian, representing the Michigan Soybean Association and the Michigan Corn Growers Association, submitted cards in support of HB 5034 and HB 5035.

Representative Byrum made a motion to report HB 5034 with recommendation.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Sheltroun, Walker, Nitz, Ball. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (10/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Representative Nitz made a motion to report HB 5035 with recommendation.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Sheltroun, Walker, Nitz, Ball. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (10/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Mayes declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 4:54 p.m.

Representative Jeff Mayes, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538